Signatures

Jan 13, 1936.

Significance of Signatures

Ps. 8:1. O Lord, our Lord, how excellent
is thy name in all the earth!
Rev. 22:4 And his name shall be on
their foreheads.

Intro. The children of signatures the
papers in a yr — letters, cards,
notes, checks, documents.
When a child first learns to write his
name — he places it everywhere — on
sidewalks, houses, furniture + would not
some never get over their childish delight
to write their names — on stage of cars —
carved on trees, houses, etc.
my initials on desk at school — thrashed and
me.

There is a deeper meaning to signatures
the man who wrote the 8th Psalm had it —
read text — the glory of sun, moon + stars —
the glory of the earth, of man. How did
it all come about? Did it just happen?
No! he cries — "It is the Lords doing; his
signature is written all over it!
this beauty, this blessing, this mercy - these
are the letters which spell God's name!

I. (2) We put our signature upon everything we do.

How does the trained ear know it is a Stradivarius violin that is played? His name is not stamped on the instrument. But the tonal quality betrays the maker — different from any other violin. Only Stradivarius could make them. That's why such a violin is worth so much.

Every master artist writes his name with every stroke of the brush & with every gouge of the chisel.

Only Mozart could have written Mozart's music.

In the same way all of us stamp our names upon the most trivial & ordinary things we do.

The long trail of cookie crumbs from kitchen to front door. Father, when he comes home, knows his wife did but do it — it is the work of his little son. The little fellow puts his name upon every crumb without even knowing it!

Every mother weaves her name into everything & in her home. Every man stamps his name upon his business or profession. The carpenter upon the house he builds. The mason upon the chimney

II. Your Signature upon persons. (3)
the Writer & Revelation goes further. He tells us that God not only writes his name upon all his works, but upon persons. His name shall be on their foreheads. 14

Parents leave their signature upon their children, not so much in physical appearance, but in mental & Spiritual characteristics.

Ruskin Reference

John Ruskin was said to have the most analytic mind in Europe of the nineteenth century. In his book "Praeterita" he admits the justice of this tribute, but he does not claim the credit for himself. He gives it to the mother and father who planned his bringing up with infinite care. This is the way he describes the home life with which they surrounded him:

> I had been taught the perfect meaning of peace, in thought, act and word.
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> I never had heard my father's or mother's voice once raised in any question with each other; nor seen an angry or even slightly hurt or offended glance in the eyes of either. I had never heard a servant scolded. . . . I had never seen a moment's trouble or disorder in any household matter; nor anything whatever . . . done in a hurry. . . . I had no conception of such a feeling as anxiety. . . .
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> Next to this quite priceless gift of Peace, I had received the perfect understanding of the natures of Obedience and Faith. I obeyed word, or lifted finger, of father or mother, simply as a ship her helm; not only without idea of resistance, but receiving the direction as a part of my own life and force, a helpful law, as necessary to me in every moral action as the law of gravity in leaping. And my practice in Faith was soon complete: nothing was ever promised me that was not given; nothing ever threatened me that was not inflicted, and nothing ever told me that was not true.

Spoiled Love would indulgence & ruled him with anger.

The case of Byron at 36 he wrote—
"My days are in the yellow leaf
The flowers & fruits of love are gone,
The worm, the canker & the grief
Are mine alone."

I) Teachers leave their signature upon students
a student may forget all he ever learned
from his teacher, but the teachers influence
upon the soul of the student is stamped there
for the rest of his life.
Miss Jaeger, my 6th grade teacher
my English teacher in the H. S. freshman
the longer we know people the deeper we
write our signatures upon them.
the inside of the redwood tree near Santa Cruz.
Covered with names & cards! Every soul
is a gallery of signatures — the influence of
others upon it.
See how Jesus carved his name upon
the souls of his 12 disciples!
also.
II. We write our names upon the community
& nation.
Al Capone & John Dillinger wrote their
names upon America. They used bullets
Legion for ink & bullets for punctuation
Benedict Arnold. George Washington & Lincoln
Both others have written their names
with mercy & kindness & helpful service.
How about your signature? What
are your writing upon your work, upon
your children, upon your friends & country
& nation. You can write it in little letters
of self-interest seeking — or like the Master
write his — in letters of kindness & courage.